

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/700,810

Examiner

Charles I. Boyer

Applicant(s)

BOUTIQUE ET AL

Art Unit

1751

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to applicants' amendment and response received December 22, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 27,30,31 and 33.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Charles I Boyer
Primary Examiner
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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ryan Aaron on March 9, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

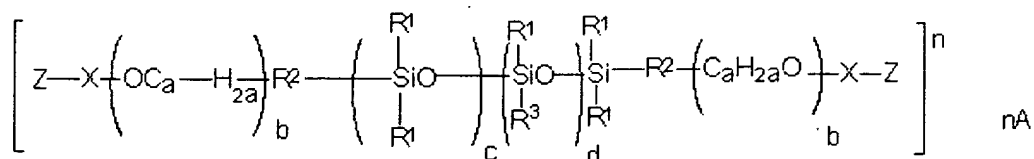
Delete claim 27 and insert new claim 27 as follows:

27. A liquid laundry detergent composition comprising

(a) at least one detergent ingredient selected from the group consisting of anionic surfactants, zwitterionic surfactants, amphoteric surfactants, and mixtures thereof;

(b) a coacervate phase forming cationic polymer selected from guar gums in an amount of from 0.05% to 0.2% by weight of the composition;

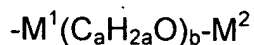
(c) one or more fabric care ingredients selected from linear cationic silicone block copolymers according to the formula:



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wherein:

- R¹ is independently selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₂₂ alkyl, C₂₋₂₂ alkenyl, C₆₋₂₂ alkylaryl, aryl, cycloalkyl, and mixtures thereof;
- R² is independently selected from the group consisting of divalent organic moieties;
- X is independently selected from the group consisting of ring-opened epoxides;
- R³ is independently selected from polyether groups having the formula:



- wherein M¹ is a divalent hydrocarbon residue; M² is independently selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₂₂ alkyl, C₂₋₂₂ alkenyl, C₆₋₂₂ alkylaryl, aryl cycloalkyl, C₁₋₂₂ hydroxyalkyl, polyalkyleneoxide, (poly)alkoxy alkyl and mixtures thereof;
- Z is independently selected from the group consisting of monovalent organic moieties comprising at least one quarternized nitrogen atom;
 - a is from about 2 to about 4; b is from 0 to about 100; c is from about 1 to about 1000; d is from 0 to about 100; n is the number of positive charges associated with the cationic silicone polymer, which is greater than or equal to about 2; and A is a monovalent anion;
- (d) one or more enzymes; and
- (e) a liquid carrier.

Cancel claims 28, 29, 32, and 34

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1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicants have claimed a composition according to claim 27 set forth above.

The closest prior art of Niemiec et al, US 6,858,202 teaches a shampoo composition comprising 0.2% silicone quaternium-13 (a quaternized siloxane containing polysiloxane and polyquaternary ammonium moieties), 0.15% guar hydroxypropyl trimonium chloride, a mixture of anionic, nonionic, and zwitterionic surfactants, and water (col. 24, table 3). Suitable additives of the invention include benefit agents and hair growth inhibiting agents, both of which may be a protease (col. 18, lines 7-34). Applicants' argument that the quaternary nitrogen of their silicone polymer is contained in the "backbone" of the "linear" copolymer, in contradistinction to the prior art in which the quaternary nitrogen is incorporated into a moiety or moieties which form a "pendant" or "dangling" structure off the "backbone", is found to be persuasive. The silicone polymers of Niemiec do not read on the silicone polymers claimed, and so the present claims are allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles I. Boyer whose telephone number is 571 272 1311. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 9:30 to 6:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas McGinty can be reached on 571 272 1029. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Charles I Boyer
Primary Examiner
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